The allocations are meant for the State as a whole. Inter-district and intra-region allocations, urban and rural areas are made by the State Governments. The allocation above includes 32,500 tonnes of wheat given for distribution in Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) areas, in addition to the quantities which were earlier allotted for such areas by the State Government. Most of the remote and inaccessible areas in the State are covered by RPDS.

Details regarding quantum of foodgrains made available in the inaccessible areas are not maintained by the Central Government. The figures of lifting of foodgrains for July and August are not yet available to the Government.

World Bank's suggestion on PDS

3519. SHRI K. K. VEERAPPAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Govenmrent has been drawn to a news item captioned "World Bank wants sugar, edible oils removed from PDS" which appeared in Pioneer dated 4th August, 1993;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof alongwith Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have received a document from the World Bank in this regard;

(d) if so, whether Government would place the same on the Table of the house; and

(e) whether Government would solicit public opinion on this document before taking decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) World Bank has not made any such recommendation.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Effect of transporters strike on availability of essential commodities

3520. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent the supply of essential commodities all over the country, State-wise has been affected on recent strike by the transport operators;

(b) what steps Government have taken to meet the shortage of essential commodities and counter the adverse effect created by the strike; and

(c) what is stock position of the essential commodities in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) State and Central Governments had taken necessary measures in advance to counter the likely adverse effect of the proposed strike by transport owners. This included advance stocking arrangements to move foodgrains and other essential commodities by mobilising all available vehicles of the Government and by

other means to prevent abnormal increases in prices of these commodities and ensuring that shortages did not occur.

By and large, the measures taken were adequate and there were no major disruptions in maintaining supplies of essential items Government kept a continuous watch on the movement, availability and prices of essential commodities.

(c) A statement showing the stocks of foodgrains held by FCI and State Governments as on 1-7-1993 is enclosed. Besides these stocks, essential commodities are also held by private trade, of which the Central Government maintains no State-wise record.

Statement

Total stock of foodgrains as on 1-7-1993 (Central States Account) (P) (Prepared on 23-7-93)

(In '000' tonnes)

Sl. No.	States/UTs.	Rice($)	Wheat	Coarse-grains	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	1543.7	143.4	..	1687.1
2	Arunachal Pradesh	7.6	0.5	..	8.1
3	Assam	111.8	34.0	..	145.8
4	Bihar	100.6	242.4	.	343.0
5	Goa	14.8	3.3	..	18.1
6	Gujarat	420.1	473.4	..	893.5
7	Haryana	203.9	3427.3	0.2	3631.5
8	Himachal Pradesh	7.8	25.0	..	32.8
9	Jammu & Kashmir	56.0	3521	..	91.1
10	Karnataka	318.5	68.0	..	386.5
11	Kerala	413.5	62.1	..	475.6
12	Madhya Pradesh	677.0	415.8	..	1092.8
13	Maharashtra	628.7	628.6	687.0	1944.3
14	Manipur	7.8	0.8	..	8.6
15	Meghalaya	4.7	4.3	..	9.0
16	Mizoram	2.2	0.9	..	3.1
17	Nagaland	3.7	1.5	..	5.2
18	Orissa	264.3	48.7	..	313.0
19	Punjab	2868.7	5953.6	..	8822.3
20	Rajasthan	98.6	820.4	0.9	919.9
21	Sikkim	0.5	..	..	0.5

1	2	3	4	5	6
22	Tamil Nadu	1156.2	62.7	..	1218.9
23	Tripura	9.5	3.2	..	12.7
24	Uttar Pradesh	939.8	2197.9	..	3137.7
25	West Bengal	388.1	172.9	..	561.0
26	A&N Islands	0.5	0.1	..	0.6
27	Chandigarh	3.1	2.0	..	5.1
28	D & N Haveli	0.4	0.1	..	0.5
29	Daman & Diu	..	..	..	..
30	Delhi	64.1	171.3	..	235.4
31	Lakshadweep	0.1	..	..	0.1
32	Pondicherry	1.1	0.4	..	1.5
	Stock in Transit	124.9	220.8	..	345.7
	GRAND TOTAL (ALL INDIA) . . .	10442.3	15220.5	688.1	26350.9

(P) Provisional

($) 100.4 thousand tonnes of rice includes paddy in term of rice.

Change in Package sizes at the ... behest of multinational soft drink companies

3521. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:

SHRI GAYA SINGH:

SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI N. GIRIPRASAD:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has changed the package sizes in the recent Darft Notification at the behest of the multinational soft drink companies without protecting the consumers' interest;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the steps being taken to precent such issues in order to protect the consumers interest ? ..

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir. In the Notification dated 12th March, 1993 Draft Rules inviting objections were published for amending certain/provisions of the Standards of Weights & Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules 1977. In this draft rule, among other items, the pack sizes of aerated soft drinks have been nationalised in the best interests of consumers.

(b) and (c) Some of the existing pack sizes in soft drinks are very close. Proliferation in pack sizes has resulted in confusion in the market